

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request entry of the present amendment.

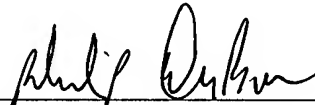
In claims 20 and 49, the claims have been amended to indicate that the porous silicon-based catalytic system is prepared from at least one hydrolysable silicon-based compound, or other source of silicon. The changes to claims 20 and 49 thus accurately reflect that the porous silicon-based catalytic system of the present invention does not necessarily comprise a hydrolysable silicon-based compound in that this compound has been hydrolyzed during the preparation process of the system.

In view of the present amendment and the amendment of July 24, 2007, applicants believe that the present application is in condition for allowance at the time of the next Official Action. Allowance and passage to issue on that basis is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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